Manchester Jan. 9th 1853.

Friend Gordon, You are aware that any thing like organized effective Anti Slavery does not exist in N.H. There is Tregoic to say considerable anti Slavery feeling among the religious sects but it is unorganized, and bound. The ~~Independent~~ Democracy are bound on the principle of No more Slavery extention, and an existing considerable influence favorable to the anti slavery cause I bid them God Speed in as much as they contribute to the aggitation of this great subject.

But it has for a long time appeared to me that an effort should be made to gather up and organize ~~the~~ what of Anti Slavery there is in N.H. in to a working and effective form. And if I do not mistake the signs of the times now, is peculiarly a favorable period to commence and prosecute such a work.

If however this work is to be prosecuted we must have help from abroad. I have conversed some with Mr. Pilsbury on this subject. I have also conversed with many

friends in this city and other parts of the State and find a strong impression that a movement ~~of~~ in favor of pure unmixed, ultra, anti slavery, would meet with favor among us.

It is the desire of a number of anti slavery men and women in this city that you should visit our city and give us one or more lectures.

We could procure the city hall and provide for all the expenses that would occur here, but should not like to engage to do more at present. We can pay and pay. Can you come soon? If you cannot come, can not Mr. Phillips or Mr. Parker be induced to perform this work of mercy? I mentioned to our faithful friend D. Pilsbury some time since that we would like to make an arrangement with him to come, and book the ice. He gave me encouragement that he would ~~like to~~ come. I have however heard nothing from him for some time and do not know where now to address him. The friends here would much prefer to have you come to the city and open the campaign if possible.

And now I with to say a word of myself. Since 1835 I have been laboring in my feeble manner, in the anti slavery cause. I have hewto for deemed it my duty to hold on to the (church) and try to bring her up to this great Christian work. And I have labored in faith and hope as long as I could find one inch of ground on which faith and hope might rest. But I will freely confess, ~~that~~ and I do it with sorrow and pain, that the experience of Seventeen years has convinced me that the American Church is hopelessly proslavery, and that any further attempt to raise her up will be but a waste of strength. In all my experience I have not known a single instance in which any one has proved faithful to the Anti Slavery Cause ~~and not~~ without loosing caste with the religious sects of this land. And I have never known any one by the most open and constant advocacy of slavery to even impair his influence with these same bodies.

Of course with the views which I now entertain of the religious bodies I can no longer waste time upon them. My nature craves sympathy but with these bodies I have never found it. It is time they have

often permitted me to speak for the slave in their meetings, and often have passed the resolutions which I have presented. But all this was toleration, a wise expedient to prevent division, and not sympathy in the blessed work.

I have no home, no people in the anti slavery work, I may well ask, I hope with better purposes, with the late Mr. Webster, "Where shall I go?"

To labour in the anti slavery cause while life and health remains, is not a matter to be decided. But whether I labour alone on my own hook, or as I would much prefer to do in company with congenial spirits is to be decided.

I would be glad to be associated with the American Anti-Slavery So. either through the Mass. A.S.S. or an auxiliary in N.H. should one be formed.

I had intended as early as last August to have laid these views and feelings open to some of the leading members of the Mass. Anti Slavery So. and the first of last August I sought an interview with you at your office, which the press of labour at that time did not permit you to grant me. Since that time

opportunity for a personal interview has occurred, I have embraced this opportunity in connection with the request which I have made of a visit to Manchester to express what I would have done with much greater fulness in a personal interview. I hope yet to enjoy such an opportunity.

Please write me as soon as convenient.

Yours for God & Humanity

A. T. Foss

Wm. Lloyd Garrison,